UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION
ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

CLCS

# COMMISSION ON THE LIMITS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF

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## TECHNICAL AND LOGISTICAL PREPAREDNESS OF THE SECRETARIAT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE COMMISSION ON THE LIMITS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF IN THE CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS OF COASTAL STATES

Information note by the Secretariat

1. At its fifth session the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf decided that at its next (sixth) session it would, inter alia, examine the technical facilities of the Secretariat and its logistical preparedness for receiving submissions of coastal States regarding the outer limits of their continental shelves (CLCS/12, para. 21). The present information note by the Secretariat has been prepared with a view to facilitating such examination.

2. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea is aware that the Commission may require equipment and/or software beyond that which the Division currently has available. It would not have been prudent to acquire all the items listed in the document entitled "Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf: its functions and scientific and technical needs in assessing the submission of a coastal State" (SPLOS/CLCS/INF/1, para. 87(b)), for two reasons:

(a) It is not known when the first submission will be received by the Commission;

(b) It is well known that the later a given item of computer equipment and/or software is purchased, the more features are added and the price decreases for the respective equipment. For example, the initial list compiled in 1996 included three different computer formats (DOS/Windows, Mac OS, UNIX), which are now increasingly able to be handled by a single, unified computer/software package.

3. To carry out its ongoing programme of work, the Division has acquired rather sophisticated equipment (see paras. 5-8 below) that can easily be utilized for the purposes of the Commission when it receives a submission.

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Additionally, the Division is in close contact with other entities within the Organization (e.g., Cartographic Unit and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations) with sophisticated cartographic capabilities, so that it is aware of hardware and/or software in those units that may be utilized by the Commission. This would obviate the need for direct purchase by the Division, thereby reducing costs.

4. Even within the prevailing United Nations budgetary constraints, the Division feels that it will be able to provide the facilities necessary to process all submissions by coastal States either directly, through cooperation within the Organization, or through contracting for specific outside services.

5. The following computer hardware which can be utilized for the purposes of the Commission is currently held by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea:

(a) Compaq® 5000 workstation running Microsoft NT, version 4, SP 5, with:

Dual Pentium Pro 200 MHz processors,

256 K Secondary Cache,

128 MB RAM (60 nanosecond, dual in-line),

4.3 gigabyte hard disk drive,

4x5 bays/slots,

8X CD-ROM,

ELSA Gloria-L 3D graphics card, 8 MB DRAM, 8 MB VRAM memory, dual monitor support,

Compaq® QVision 210 monitor with 1240 x 1600 dpi resolution,

3-button mouse,

Integrated 10/100TX Auto-sensing Ethernet NIC with software for Banyan Vines.

(b) Hewlett Packard ScanJet 6100C colour 8.5x14 inch flat-bed scanner with 2400x600 dpi resolution.

(c) Hewlett Packard SureStore CD-Writer Plus 7200e with parallel port attachment (portable).

(d) Epson Stylus Color 3000 printer for Windows 95/NT with:

13" x 18" bed;

1440 x 720 dpi resolution;

Banner paper printable area: 8.3" - 17" x 196".

(e) Toshiba model TLP-511A multimedia LCD Projector with projection resolution 1024x768 and 700 ANSI lumens with document camera built-in.

(f) Notebook computer Dell® Inspiron™ 3000 multimedia with:

Processor 233MHz Pentium II® w/MMX;

Screen 13.3" XGA Active Matrix TFT Color;

Memory 80MB RAM;

Hard drive 4.0GB Ultra ATA hard drive;

Operating System Microsoft Windows 98;

Network Adapter 3Com PCMCIA Ethernet 10Base-T network card;

Modem 56K XJack fax modem;

CD-ROM 20/11X variable CD-ROM drive;

Software - Microsoft Office '97 including Word 97, Excel 97, Access 97, PhotoEditor™ and Internet Explorer 4.

6. The following computer equipment is on order by the Division (expected delivery is in September 1999):

Dell Precision® Workstation 610 MiniTower with:

Dual Pentium® III Xeon 550MHz processors;

512 KB full-speed cache;

Windows NT 4.0 (SP 5);

256 MB ECC SDRAM memory;

18.2 gigabyte Ultra2/Wide SCSI (10,000 r.p.m.) hard drive;

Diamond Fire GL1 graphics card (IBM 256-bit graphics rasterizer) including:

- 32MB SCRAM for unified frame buffer, Z-buffer and texture storage with 3-D features:

  256-bit rendering pipeline, 24-bit Z-buffer, alpha blending, gamma correction, masking, fog, fast window clears, anti-aliasing, bilinear/trilinear mip-map filtering, Gouraud shading, 3D geometry setup, perspective correction, specular highlighting, and fast window mod double-buffering;

- Bus interface: AGP 2X 2.0 compliant, PCI 2.1;

- Maximum resolution: 1600 x 1200, 16.7 million colours at 85Hz refresh rate;

Dell 21-inch UltraScan 1600HS (Trinitron) monitor with 1600x1200 dpi resolution at 85Hz;

17/40X SCSI CD-ROM for Windows NT (internal);

40/4X CD-R re-writeable CD-ROM drive (internal);

3Com 3C900 Combo Ethernet PCI NIC (network interface card) for Banyan LAN connection.

7. The following software packages are available within the Division:

(a) Datum Transformation and Coordinate Conversion (DTCC), version 4.1.2 National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), United States Government series;

(b) Microsoft® Word 2000 and Word 97;

(c) Microsoft® Excel 2000 and Excel 97;

(d) Microsoft® Access 2000 and Access 97;

(e) Microsoft® Powerpoint 2000;

(f) Microsoft® Encarta 99;

(g) OmniPage Pro for Windows 98/NT, version 9.0;

(h) ARC/INFO®, version 7.2.1, Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI). Includes the following extensions:

(i) Plotting;

(ii) Network;

(iii) TIN;

(iv) COGO®;

(v) Grid®;

(i) ARCView® GIS, version 3.1, Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI). Includes the following extensions:

(i) Spatial Analyst;

(ii) Network Analyst.

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(5) Adobe Illustrator®, version 8.0, Adobe Systems Incorporated. Includes the following suite of GIS plug-ins:

MAPublisher® for Windows 95/NT version 3.5, Avenza Corp.

8 The Division holds the following data sets:

(a) National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) - United States Government:

Digital Nautical Chart (DNC) CDs;
Scale from 1:25,000 to 1:250,000;
Coverage 40 of the potential 200+ CDs (world coverage). Series to be completed in 2001.

Vmap0 (vector map level 0) CDs;
Coverage: entire world.

World Vector Shoreline Plus (WVSPlus) 1996;
Coverage: world;
Scale: 1:250,000.

(b) United States Geological Service (USGS):

Global 30-arc-second Elevation Data Set (GTOPO-30 series - 4 CD set, Antarctica not included);
Coverage: world;
Scale: 1:50,000 to 1:1,000,000 - varies with specific location.

(c) Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI):
Digital Chart of the World (CD);
Coverage: entire world.

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